## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 09150 031037Z

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**ACTION EA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 TRSE-00 FS-01 SY-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /027 W

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R 030940Z JUL 75 FM AMEMBASSY MANILA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5114

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN, RP

SUBJECT: SOCIAL SECURITY CHECK OVERPRINTING

REF: A) STATE A-1119 OF FEBRUARY 19, 1975; B) STATE 100852

- 1. EMBASSY APPRECIATIVE OF TREASURY INTEREST IN OBTAINING A REVIEW OF PRACTICE OF OVERPRINTING OF SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS PAYABLE TO PHILIPPINE CITIZENS RESIDING IN THE PHILIPPINES.
- 2. ABBOTT TO GIRDNER LETTER OF DECEMBER 6, 1974 CORRECTLY STATES SITUATION REGARDING NEGOTIABILITY OF SUCH CHECKS AT BANKING FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES. PROBLEM OF BENEFICIARIES WHO LEAVE THE PHILIPPINES IS, OF COURSE, LIMITED AND REMEDIABLE FOR INDIVIDUAL CASES AS THEY OCCUR.
- 3. CENTRAL BANK OFFICIALS HAVE INDICATED TO EMBASSY CONTINUED DESIRABILITY OF OVERPRINTING PROGRAM.

  DEPRECIATION OF PHILIPPINE PESO AND STRICTER ENFORCEMENT OF PHILIPPINE FOREIGN EXCHANGE REGULATIONS ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE REDUCED INCIDENCE OF BLACK MARKET ACTIVITIES INVOLVING U.S. DOLLAR INSTRUMENTS. SUCH ACTIVITIES HAVE NOT, HOWEVER, BEEN COMPLETELY ELIMINATED. BANK OFFICERS HAVE RECENTLY BROUGHT TO EMBASSY'S ATTENTION CONFISCATION BY PHILIPPINE AUTHORITIES OF LARGE NUMBER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF DOLLAR CHECKS FROM BLACK MARKETEERS. REPORT FROM

BANK LEAVES LITTLE QUESTION OF ORGANIZED ACTIVITY WHICH WOULD INEVITABLY SEEK TO EXPLOIT SOCIAL SECURITY RECIPIENTS.

4. IN VIEW OF BANK'S POSITION AND CONTINUING
PROSPECT THAT TERMINATION OF OVERPRINTING OF SOCIAL
SECURITY CHECKS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO WIDESPREAD VIOLATION
OF PHILIPPINE FOREIGN EXCHANGE REGULATIONS, EMBASSY
RECOMMENDS THAT OVERPRINTING BE CONTINUED. PURNELL

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PRINTING, CHECKS (MONEY), FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTROLS, PERSONNEL COMPENSATION

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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